THE APPLE PEELERS GAZETTE

THE JOURNAL OF THE GAINESVILLE APPLE PEELERS
APRIL 1989 VOL. 6, NO. 4

THIS MONTH:

PAINT YOUR WAGON

TREASURER'S REPORT

AppleWorks SIG REPORT

MEET THE MEMBER

PAINT PROGRAMS

by Jolene Seltzer

Paint Programs from ***Mousepaint*** to ***Paintworks Gold*** have certain basics in common. The amount of tools (brush, pencil, spray) shapes, colors, patterns and text become increasingly complex with the paint program itself. The mouse was the preferred method of application in executing the program, although many support joysticks, graphics tablets and Koala pads.

The more sophisticated programs offer Clip Art disks with hundreds of professional quality graphics and the ability to animate you art.

Using paint programs is fun and usually rewarding. Even mess ups can turn into beautiful abstract art. Mirror images and color fill can be fun experimentation, especially for children. As one becomes more experienced, saving your project on disk in stages is a must, to allow revisions and fine detail work. If a mistake is made or you dislike the effects you have tried, you simply reload at the previous stage.

Do not feel intimidated! The only way to get acquainted and familiar with a paint program is to review the manual and boot up the program. Have fun trying each opportunity the program has to offer.

The following is a brief collection of some basic glossary terms found most commonly in paint programs:

1. Pixel - An abbreviation for "picture element," or the smallest building block normally used in a color drawing.
2. Grid - Overlays and outline of contrasting lines over a magnified section, clearly delineating each pixel.
3. Flip - Allows you to flip defined areas of the screen either vertically or horizontally.
4. Flood fill - Lets you quickly fill a space with a color or pattern.
5. Invert - This feature will change all the colors in the captured space to their opposite colors. (example: black changes to white)
6. Mirrors - Allows you to draw and have your strokes "mirrored" exactly in either the opposite half of the screen (top, bottom, left or right) or all four sections of the screen.
7. Cut - Lets you capture and lift off a section of your picture and place it onto the "clipboard" so you can paste it.
8. Paste - To reposition or reproduce "captured" sections of the screen.
9. Zoom - Lets you magnify a section of the screen for fine, pixel by pixel detail work.
10. Undo - Allows you to erase or take back the last action you took.

Sonic Blaster Review

by Tyler D. Weisman, Pres.

Once again, Applied Engineering has released a winning product. This time, it is the Sonic Blaster card, a combined stereo output and audio digitizing card for the IIgs. The card far surpasses its competition in both design quality and performance.

The card can be installed in any slot except slot 3. The most recommended slots are 2, 1, or 6 in that particular order. An additional cable goes to the stereo connector on the IIgs motherboard. Finally, a mounting plate that contains 1/8 inch stereo input and output jacks attaches to the back panel of the IIgs. The installation procedure is not difficult and provides a clean means of connecting to the card, without running cables from the outside world into the IIgs. Compared to the SuperSonic Card from

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NOTICE

Due to the Passover Holiday, the AppleWorks SIG will meet on Thursday, April 27 instead of Thursday, April 20. The time and location remain the same.

GENERAL INFORMATION

GAP is the only local Apple II user's Group. Organized for the collection and distribution of information about the Apple II series of microcomputers, GAP offers a wealth of information, education, help, friendship and enrichment to our members.

MEETING SCHEDULE: The Gainesville Apple Peelers meets on the second Wednesday of every month (except August) at Gainesville High School, 1900 NW 13th Street, Room #25-008 (in the new science wing, first room downstairs). Meetings are at 7:00 PM sharp. Future meetings: **April 12th**, May 10th, June 14th, July 12th, September 13th, October 11th, November 8th, December 13th.

Benefits of membership include:

* Subscription to the monthly newslettter.
* Free unclassified ads in the newsletter.
* Product demonstrations.
* Discounts from computer related businesses.
* Special Interest Groups (SIGs).
* Occassional Freebies.
* The Help Hotline.
* Disk of the month.
* Scheduled Swap Meets.
* A large (and growing) Public Domain Software Library.
* Social Events.

Membership Dues are $25.00 per calendar year.
Dues for new members is $30.00
(includes GAP's New Member Kit).

Membership applications should be refered to:

G.A.P.
Attn: Darren Evans, Treasurer
P.O. Box # 2354
Gainesville, FL 32602-2354

GAP GAZETTE PUBLISHING GUIDELINES:

We welcome editorial contributions from our readers. If you have ideas, reviews, or advice to share, submit an article to our newsletter editor no later than two weeks prior to the group's general meeting for inclusion in that month's Gazette. Articles will be accepted as either an ASCII text (TXT) file, or as an AppleWorks Word Processor (AWP) file. (Your disk will be returned.)

Commercial Advertising Rates: Full Page $25. Half Page $15. Quarter page $10. Business card size $5. Unclassifieds are 10 cents per word. Submit camera ready display ads or unclassified copy to the editor. Make checks payable to GAP. Deadline is two weeks prior to general membership meetings.

Newsletter mail and general corespondence should be sent to: Gainesville Apple Peelers, Attn: Perry Rosenfeld (Editor), P.O. Box # 2354, Gainesville, FL 32602-2354.

For those interested in becoming members of the Gainesville Apple Peelers, or if you need more infromation about GAP, please contact one of the officers at the address above, or give one of them a call at the numbers listed at the top of this page.

EDITOR'S NOTICE

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MEET THE MEMBER

by Jolene Seltzer, V.P.

Welcome Jack Kuntz. Born in New York, he moved to Gainesville three and one half years ago from New Jersey. Jack has a IIe and is specifically interested in ***AppleWorks*** applications. Retired, but very busy, he writes fiction and nonfiction and currently is working on a novel. Before retirement Jack was a computer systems analyst. For pleasure he also enjoys biking, swimming and travel.

He is advanced in the application of ***AppleWorks*** and uses ***Visicalc*** once a month. Jack's primary reason for joining GAP is to enhance his knowledge and skills with ***AppleWorks***, but would like to see better visibility with demonstrations at regular club meetings. He feels optimistic with the development of the ***AppleWorks*** SIG.

New ImageWriter LQ

by Perry Rosenfeld, Editor

Apple Computer, Inc. has announced a hardware update to the Apple ImageWriter LQ. **"the ImageWriter LQ has been enhanced as part of Apple's goal to offer superior products across both its ImageWriter and LaserWriter printer families. The enhanced ImageWriter LQ printer improves quality and printing performance in the upper and lower areas of a page. The printer noise level has also been reduced..."**

The retail price on the new LQ is $1,399. For this price, you get the only 27 pin, 15 inch wide printer on the market, fully Apple II and Macintosh compatible. At this time the Apple IIgs users are awaiting a complete driver for the LQ, which is expected to arrive in the next version of GS/OS. Meanwhile, the LQ functions and performs exactly as an ImageWriter II for the Apple II family.

In addition to the updated hardware, Apple Computer, Inc. is implementing an exchange policy for all owners of ImageWriter LQ printers purchased between August 11, 1987 and March 7th, 1989! The exchange can be made at any Apple service provider or reseller, and you will receive a renewed 90 day warranty.

Treasurers Report

First Quarter

By Darren Evans, Tresurer

Beginning Balance January 1, 1989		**$652.99**
Revenues:		
New Members	**122.00**	
Renewals	**85.00**	
Public Domain	**31.50**	
Disk Sales	**25.00**	
T-Shirts	**2.50**	
Ribbon Re-Ink	**1.00**	
Total Revenues:		**267.00**
Expenses:		
Newsletter	**72.75**	
Disks	**45.00**	
Postage	**75.00**	
Awards	**48.46**	
Supplies	**10.07**	
Bank Service Charges	**2.15**	
Total Expenses:		**253.43**
Ending balance March 27, 1989		**$666.56**

Corrections/Updates

by Perry Rosenfeld, Editor

In last month's issue, in the table relating the latest Pinpoint version numbers, ***Apple IIgs Starter Pack*** **v1.0** was said to be the latest release. We regret that this information was wrong. The correct version is ***Apple IIgs Starter Pack*** **v2.0.**

Shortly after press time last month it was announced that ***Point to Point***, previously a Pinpoint Publishing product, will now be marketed and supported by Beagle Bros. Software and not Roger Wagner Publishing.

Desktop Index

1. AppleWorks.SIG

AppleWorks, the Big Picture

By Perry Rosenfeld, Editor

Before starting in on ***AppleWorks***, I would like to comment on the first ***AppleWorks*** SIG meeting we had in March. To our surprise, eleven members attended the meeting, which was held at my home. In addition, there were a few who had told me that they were interested in attending, but could not make it this month.

The first meeting of the ***AppleWorks*** SIG was essentially organizational. My primary focus was in finding out just what the SIG members wanted out of the program. To my surprise, there was a strong interest in "starting from the top." Other topics of discussion will include ***AppleWorks*** add on products like Beagle's ***TimeOut***, expanding ***AppleWorks*** for use with third party memory products. Also, we will explore how to patch ***AppleWorks*** for aesthetic and other reasons (with ***SuperPatch***, etc.).

Before moving onto this month's topic, I would like to stress that the ***AppleWorks*** SIG will discuss Classic **AppleWorks**, and, at least for now, leave the discussion of **AppleWorks** GS for the GS SIG.

Now, on with the Show...

As we begin, let us first set the way back machine to early 1984. The watch word of the day was "Integration." Lotus' *1-2-3* was a big hit in the IBM software market and gave a bright future vision to everyone of what "Integrated" software would someday become. But *1-2-3* was hard to use! A large investment of time was needed to overcome the learning curve and become proficient.

The ability to use data from one application and bring it into another was the big selling point of integration. Some software companies decided to attack the problem of integrating documents, databases, and spreadsheets by creating similar file formats which could be read by all three of their programs. Good examples of this approach is the **Bank Street** series and the ***PFS:*** series. ***Bank Street Writer*** and ***Bank Street Filer*** can share data, so that database information does not have to be rekeyed or converted to an ASCII file to be used.

While this method works, and is still viable to this day, it required the user to exit one application, gather materials for the next application, start the program, and finally import the data. This method also called for the purchase of several products, boxes, manuals, registration cards, etc.

Jumping from one type of application to another is time consuming, and requires a whole change in logic for the computer. In early 1984 ProDOS was introduced, and shortly after that Apple Computer, Inc. introduced ***AppleWorks*** in ProDOS format. ***AppleWorks*** was the first "all-in-one" integrated software package for the Apple II line, including a Word Processor, DataBase, and SpreadSheet. As we all know, ***AppleWorks*** became a gigantic success story. At one time, ***AppleWorks*** was the all time sales leader of any software available for any computer! That is not talking about dollars, but sales of legitimate copies.

The reason for this success is owed to the high degree of success that Rupert Lissner, the author of ***AppleWorks***, had in creating his idea of integration. ***AppleWorks*** is a combination of three applications that makes integration work where others have failed. The greatest accomplishment in Lissner's work was the creation of program commands that spanned across all three of the applications! Ease in learning (and remembering) software commands is what made ***AppleWorks*** such a great success. Even casual users could remember that the Open-Apple-P key sequence was for <P>rinting your file.

Most of the program functions were given key sequences that "made sense" to users. Unfortunately, some functions had to be put to less recognizable key sequences, due to functions having the same starting letter. For instance, the command to Delete is OA-D, while calling the Desktop Index is OA-Q. (OA-D and OA-Q are shorthand for "Open-Apple-D" and "Open-Apple-Q," I will be using this convention throughout my discussion of ***AppleWorks*** in this and future articles. -Ed.)

Continued on next page...

Because of the success of making sensible command key choices, ***AppleWorks*** makes integration seem almost seamless. Jumping from application to application takes only a few moments, versus a few minutes for separate applications. Moving data from one application to another takes only a few keystrokes, and once you have done it a few times, you will never forget how to do it! ***AppleWorks*** brings ease to integration, and next month we will talk about the Desktop, which binds the other three applications together and gives ***AppleWorks*** its special feel and "friendliness."

Apple Videodromes

by Perry Rosenfeld, Editor

On April 3, Apple Computer announced a product that represents an entirely new direction in personal computer applications on the Apple II line. The product is the Apple II Video Overlay Card (VOC). The card enables Apple II users to combine computer and video images to create video productions.

To some, this capability may not seem so new or novel. After all, there is a video-out port at the back of an Apple II. Simply run a cable to your video recorder's video-in port and start recording. Of course this is possible, but the quality of the results often suffers from screen flicker, and in any case computer generated video will replace or overwrite any previous image on the existing tape. Trying to run credits during an "action" scene will not work.

Another common complaint about this method is the lackluster appearance of colors. Apple's new VOC will solve these problems. The overlay card makes use of Genlock technology to seemlessly combine computer generated artwork and video images from other sources. Color and flicker problems are eliminated because the Genlock circuits provide the necessary timing and color correction information to the recording device. This is true whether the recording is a strictly of your own computer generated artwork (like a slide show), or one in which you are using the overlay capabilities of the VOC.

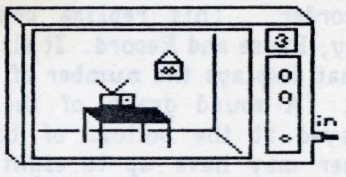
With Apple's Video Overlay Card, Apple provides the ***VideoMix*** software for Apple II owners. ***VideoMix*** is a video painting program that will allow users to start experiencing Video Overlay first hand. The software is provided in both 3.5 and 5.25 disk formats. ***VideoMix*** allows for the painting, editing and recording of the computer or combined video/computer images. An added feature is the ability to adjust color and tint of the external video image, just like one might with a television set. Altering the soundtrack is not possible with ***VideoMix***, but sound output/editing is available from several other sources, and will have to be handled separately.

Provided that the video source has a tuner, the VOC will allow users to watch television/cable from their RGB monitors. (For Apple IIe owners the card doubles as an RGB card!)

The video output is claimed to meet NTSC RS-170A specifications for broadcast transmissions, and it is said that output quality of the images or overlay images is dependent upon the video input quality. That means, if it is provided with some professional quality video source images, the Apple VOC will produce professional quality output suitable for television broadcast!

Apple sees the VOC having its major application in the school and in private homes. The capabilities of the card do not leave the small business producer out, but Apple does not see this group as a major consumer of the new card.

The Video Overlay Card comes with the ***VideoMix*** Software, an RGB cable, a video in/out cable, and the owners manual. The suggested retail price is $549. Although ***VideoMix*** is the only Video editor available at this time, developers of paint style programs are rushing to include these features into their products. It will not be long before "Desktop Video Production" becomes the latest computer catch phrase (like Desktop Publishing).



MDIdeas and the Futuresound Card from Applied Visions, the Sonic Blaster is designed to better maintain the integrity of the interface of external and internal environments of the IIgs. The speakers are connected to the output jack and the stereo input device is connected to the input jack, both conveniently located outside the IIgs case.

The card contains two volume control pots, one for each of the stereo channels. These must be set in appropriate positions to provide the proper sound level for amplified and unamplified speakers. The volume, of course, should be set to the level that the user prefers. Further volume control is obtained through the individual software products.

Once this installation is complete, the system is ready to use with your favorite stereo software. The stereo output and clarity from the Sonic Blaster is superior to the SuperSonic card. While in the Finder, the speakers no longer emit a pulsing sound when the 3.5 inch disk drives are polled. ***Music Studio*** files also sound much clearer and brighter. The engineers at Applied Engineering have really done an excellent job at filtering extraneous noise from the IIgs sound system.

Also included in the Sonic Blaster package is digitizing software. The software is comprehensive, flexible and easy to use. It uses the standard IIgs user interface and allows a maximum of eight windows of digitized sound open at once. In order to digitize or to save digitized files, the slot the card is located in must be activated in the control panel, rather than its associated port. With the ***Control.Now*** system setup file installed on the boot disk, the user should be able to switch between the slot and the port without rebooting. This works with the ***SlotSwitch*** CDA, but not with the ***Control Panel Utility (CPU)*** CDA. Why it doesn't work with ***CPU*** is still a mystery. With future releases of GS/OS and the inclusion of the feature for virtual slots in the operating system, this switching between port and slot will become unnecessary.

The digitizing software has the ability to record stereo or mono recordings. Mono recordings can be digitized to either of the two different stereo channels. Input levels can be set automatically via the Auto Gain command in the Setup pull down menu. Levels can also be set by viewing the Volume Unit (VU) meters located on the screen.

Also located on the main screen is an replica of a cassette tape recorder. This replica contains the buttons Stop, Play, Pause and Record. It also contains a length meter that displays the number of bytes in a digitized sample. A sound graph of the digitized sample is displayed at the bottom of the screen. Although the user may have up to eight digitized samples open simultaneously, only the active window is displayed on the screen. The user can toggle between the different digitized samples by selecting them from the Sounds pull down menu.

The sample can be set to play in either single play or continuous play modes. Also, sections of the sample can be chosen to be played. Additionally, the software allows editing of the waveforms of the digitized samples, including amplitude changes, fading (either up or down), inversing, silencing and echoing of the entire sample or a highlighted section of the sample. Sections of the waveforms may be cut, copied, pasted and appended. Even two different waveform files may be appended together.

File size is limited by the machine's available memory, and extremely large files may be split apart and saved to multiple diskettes. Sound file formats supported include Applied Engineering's own format (documentation for which is included), Apple's AIFF format, 2:1 Compressed format, 2.67:1 Compressed format and Raw Data format.

Operation of the software is almost flawless. Two minor problems were encountered when the program was used. First, there is a problem with the interaction of the program and the memory manager. Upon closing files, not all the memory appears to be cleared. When attempting to record a new file after closing all other open windows, the program stated that not enough memory was available to record another digitized sample. This was unusual, since more than enough memory was available earlier to digitize multiple samples.

The second problem encountered had to do with editing the tail section of a digitized sample. Even though a portion of the tail section of a sample is not highlighted, the software still tends to play this portion. This can be dangerous when editing, because the user may inadvertently have the computer edit out a section of the sample that should not have been cut. Both of these bugs seem easily remedied and probably will be in a future release of the software.

The manual is well laid out and easy to follow. It includes an adequate amount of graphics to allow the user to easily install the Sonic Blaster card and learn the operation of the software. Separate sections on hardware and software limit the amount of confusion that might have occurred if explanations about the hardware and software were included together. Appendices include information on RAM or Hard Disk installation, Trouble Shooting, Adapters for cabling, Saving Large Files, product support, and programming. An outstanding glossary on sound digitizing as it relates to computer operation is also included.

Overall, this product gets a five star rating. The hardware is unsurpassed, the manual clear and easy to follow and the software almost flawless. Since the software is the easiest of the three components to fix,

Continued on back Cover...

UNCLASSIFIED ADS:

Do you have something you want to buy, sell, rent, read, try, trade or announce? As a GAP member, you have **FREE** advertising in the newsletter each month, which is mailed to homes and businesses throughout the North Florida region. Subit your ad of 50 words or less to the editor at the next meeting, or by mail.

For Sale: Full Page, Half Page and unclassified ads in the newsletter. If you are a non-member, or a business interested in placing an ad, please refer to the newsletter guidelines section for more information or contact the Editor. Advertising in the GAP newsletter is less expensive than direct mailings.

For Sale: Check out the new additions to the Public Domain Library! Only $1.50 per 5.25" disk and $3.00 per 3.5" disk. See Richard "Ty" Fiola at the next meeting.

For Sale: Apple HD20SC, 20 MB SCSI Hard Disk, cable and terminator - - $750.
Apple 5 MB Profile - - $400.
3 Month old DuoDisk 5.25 drive - - $400.
IIe numeric Keypad - - $75.
Thunderclock (ProDos, DOS 3.3 and Pascal software included) - - $100.
Call Tyler or Leah at 375-6325.

For Sale: 2 Apple II+s for parts NOT working, one minus motherboard. Both for $125.
Call Mark at 378-5873

Help Wanted: The Florida Division of Blind Services needs Apple II owners to type short items like menus and bus schedules. Two finger typists welcome. All that is required is a word processor that can produce a Text (ASCII) file, like AppleWorks or Apple Writer. Call Leah at 375-6325.

For Sale: Apple IIe, w/extended 80 column card, 128K RAM, 2 Apple disk drives, Epson MX-80 printer w/controller card. Apple Monitor III, Manuals, Software. Complete system. Excellent condition. A bargain at $1400. Call Earle Jones at 377-4347.

For Sale: Quill 5 1/4 inch Diskette File with four dividers. Holds 50 diskettes. $2.50. Call Tyler Weisman at 375-6325.

Ribbon Re-inking: still available to members for ImageWriter I and II, Apple DMP, and Apple DWP. Black only, $2 per ribbon, $1 goes to GAP treasury! Contact Tyler Weisman at the next meeting.

For Sale: ProTerm Version 2.0. Capable of being upgraded to version 2.1. Rated the telecommunications program with the most features for the Apple II line. Will run on Apple IIe, IIc, IIc+ and IIgs. $25.00. Contact Richard "Ty" Filoa at 372-5976.

For Sale: Copy stand with desk clip for letter sized paper. Spring loaded swivel arm. Perfect for holding Word Processing documents, Data Base Management data sheets and reports, Spreadsheet data, etc. $30.00. Contact Tyler or Leah at 375-6325.

FOR SALE

5.25" Disks	**10 for $5.00**
3.5" Disks	**5 for $7.50**
T-Shirts	**$2.50**
Softdisk Magazine	**$7.00**

MEMBER DISCOUNTS:

BETTER BUSINESS FORMS, 5700 SW 34th St. Suite 105, (904) 377-1277. 10% off ribbons, paper, disks, disk storage boxes and files, custom business forms, and computer furniture. See Lori Duncan.

COMPUMAX, 2441 NW 43rd St., Thornebrook Village, (904) 375-7737. 10% off selected hardware and software, ribbons, disks, and disk storage boxes and files. See Florence Cline.

KEY DATA SYSTEMS, Call Kay Kelley at 375-9542 (voice pager) or 462-2286 (evenings). Offering wholesale prices on a wide variety of computer hardware and software.

APPLE REPAIRS Call Mark for estimates/repairs of Apple II, II+, IIe computers and 5.25 inch disk drives. 378-5873.

the product can be classified the best of all combined stereo and digitizer card packages available. Anyone interested in working with and recording digitized sound on the IIgs should purchase this product. With the release of the Sonic Blaster, Applied Engineering has continued to live up to its reputation of producing quality products for the Apple II line of computers.

Pinpoint Update II

by Tyler D. Weisman, Pres.

Good news is in store for owners of Pinpoint products. This good news comes from Beagle Bros. Not only are they taking over the marketing and support of Point to Point, but Beagle is also offering a trade in on Pinpoint products for Beagle's TimeOut products.

To take advantage of this outstanding offer, a Pinpoint product owner needs to complete the coupon available in A+ or InCider magazine, and mail this in with the original disk of the Pinpoint product, and pay half of the suggested retail price of the TimeOut product. Check, money order, Master Card and Visa are acceptable forms of payment.

The offer applies to the following products:

KeyPlayer to TimeOut UltraMacros--$30.00,
Spelling Checker to QuickSpell--$35.00,
Document Checker to QuickSpell--$35.00,
Graphic Edge to TimeOut Graph--$45.00,
Pinpoint Desk Accessories to DeskTools--$25.00,
Pinpoint to DeskTools II--$25.00,
Pinpoint to PowerPack--$25.00,
Any Pinpoint Product Disk for a Beagle 2-for-1 Coupon--no charge.

Shipping and handling for each trade in costs an additional $3.50, except for the coupon. The offer expires June 30, 1989. The trade ins are only available directly from Beagle Bros. All TimeOut products work with AppleWorks versions 2.0 and 2.1. For additional information, check the full page Beagle Bros. advertisements in the May issues of A+ and InCider.

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